

MARYPORT URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1905

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

JAMES LITTLE, Esq., M.D.

URBAN DISTRICT OF MARYPORT.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, For the Year 1905.

To THE

MARYPORT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

In submitting my annual report for 1905, I must make a few preliminary observations on the question of population. In the early part of the year I found that there had been a considerable increase of population, more particularly in certain districts, and that calculations based on the old estimates of population had ceased to be accurate. I accordingly made a re-estimate of the population based upon the number of houses in occupation as compared with 1901. Without going into details I found that there was an increase in all the wards : slight in the North Ward, and considerable in the South and East Wards. The result was as follows in round numbers :—

North Ward	...	...	4,150
South Ward	...	...	4,400
East Ward	...	...	3,850
Total	...	...	12,400

or an increase of 504 over the census returns 1901. It is probable that our Birth and Death Rates for the last year or two should have really been rather lower than as set forth.

The Local Government Board's tables are the same as in recent years except that they have added a fifth to the four already in use. It consists of an analysis of the causes of death in infants under twelve months old, in weeks and months. I shall have to refer to this matter later on.

Birth Rate The number of births registered during the year amounts to 352 of which 110 belong to the North Ward ; 103 to the South ; and 139 to the East Ward. With the revised population we therefore get the following Birth Rates :—

North Ward	...	26·50	per 1000 of the population.
South Ward	...	23·40	„ „ „ „
East Ward	...	36·10	„ „ „ „
Whole District	...	28·38	„ „ „ „

There is as usual a much higher birth rate in the East than in the other Wards, due no doubt to a younger population, and its being principally of the working class. On the whole the birth rate is much lower than the average of the previous ten years which was 31·21 as compared with 28·38 in 1905. The birth rate for the whole of England and Wales in 1905 was 27·2, and of the 141 smaller towns 26·29, so that we are still fairly well ahead.

Death Rate. The number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the district was 190, of which 63 occurred in the North Ward; 69 in the South; and 58 in the East Ward. One death occurred in the Maryport Cottage Hospital, but as it belonged to Wigton it is not included, and notice was sent to the Medical Officer of Health of that district. We have therefore the following death rates :—

North Ward	...	...	15·18	per 1,000
South Ward	...	...	15·68	" "
East Ward	...	...	15·16	" "
Whole District	...	...	15·32	" "

The death rates in the different wards are surprisingly even. The rate is the lowest since 1899 and is considerably below the average of the last ten years, which was 16·35. Great inequality is shown in the rates of the different quarters, the first being nearly equal to the other three together. This was due largely to an epidemic of Measles which will be noticed later on.

The death rate for England and Wales in 1905 was 15·2, and of the 141 Smaller towns 14·4 which must be, I should think, a record, and is rather less than our own. Our death rate is usually considerably lower than that of England and Wales, but owing to the accident of the Measles epidemic already mentioned it is slightly higher, though still very low. Table IV. shows the causes of death classified according to age and locality; from which it appears that there were from Measles 35 deaths; Typhus Fever, 1; Diarrhœa, 5; Enteritis, 5; Phthisis, 11; other Tubercular Diseases, 6; Cancer, 6; Bronchitis, 18; Pneumonia, 13; Pleurisy, 1; other respiratory diseases, 4; Alcoholism, 3; Premature Births, 6; Diseases and Accidents of Parturition, 2; Heart Diseases, 19; Accidents, (including Drowning), 7; Suicide, 1; Rheumatic Fever, 1; and all other causes 47.

The common diseases, Measles, Bronchitis and Pneumonia are thus shown to be far the most fatal on the whole. The most important of these will be noticed under separate headings.

Infant Mortality. The importance attached by the Local Government Board to this section is shown by their issuing an entirely new table showing deaths from stated causes in weeks and months. I am pleased to be able to record a considerable decline in the mortality under this heading, the number of cases being 45, which is the lowest, with two exceptions, during the last ten years. The rate per 1000 births registered was 127, as compared with 152, the average of the previous ten years. The rate for England and Wales in 1905 was 128, and of the 141 smaller towns 132 per 1000 births registered, so that for once we are below the average.

From table V. it appears that of these 45 deaths, 10 died from Measles; 3 from Diarrhœa; 4 from Gastritis; 6 from Premature Birth; 5 from Congenital defects; 1 from injury at birth; 2 from Marasmus or wasting; 1 from Tuberculosis; 1 from Rickets; 1 from Meningitis; 2 from Convulsions; 5 from Bronchitis; 2 from Pneumonia; and 2

from other causes. Also that 7 died during the first week ; 13 the first month ; that there was then a falling off for some months, and again an increase towards the end of the first year of age.

The Zymotic Death Rate is again rather high. 41 deaths are due to this group, which includes the seven principal epidemic diseases.

The rate therefore works out at 3·3 per 1000. The cause of the large Zymotic mortality was the epidemic of Measles in the early portion of the year, no less than 35 deaths being due to this cause. Epidemic Diarrhoea caused 5 deaths and Typhus Fever 1.

Phthisis was the cause of death in 11 cases, giving a rate of 0·88.

Other Tubercular Diseases accounted for 6 deaths, making with the 11 deaths from Phthisis, 17, or a death rate of 1·37 for all forms of Tuberculosis.

Cancer. 6 cases were ascribed to this cause, equivalent to a death rate of 0·48 per 1000.

Respiratory Diseases are again a heavy item, 26 deaths falling under this class, of which 18 were cases of Bronchitis ; 18 of Pneumonia ; 1 of Pleurisy ; and 4 of other Respiratory diseases. In addition to these nearly all the cases classed under Measles really died from Respiratory Complications.

Notification of Infectious Diseases. There was a great falling off from the previous year in this section. 54 cases were notified altogether ; 4 being cases of Small pox ; 4 of Diphtheria ; 7 of Erysipelas ; 38 of Scarlet Fever ; and 1 of Typhus Fever. Table III. shows these cases grouped according to ages and localities.

The Small-pox cases all occurred in one house in North Street, where the disease had been imported from Kendal. They were all removed to the Isolation Hospital as the cases developed. They all refused to be vaccinated, but readily submitted to be quarantined. Disinfection was thoroughly carried out and the disease did not spread to any of the neighbouring houses. A report of the outbreak was sent to the Local Government Board and the County Council.

Of the **Diphtheria** cases, 3 occurred in the South Ward, and one in the East. All recovered.

The **Scarlet Fever** cases were of the same type that we have been accustomed to of recent years, and none died.

The **Typhus Fever** case was a very obscure one. Some of the symptoms were equivocal ; there was no connection traceable to a previous case, and it was only because the case resembled Typhus more than anything else that a provisional diagnosis of Typhus Fever was agreed on. The case was notified to the Local Government Board.

Water Supply. The annual visit to the sources of the water supply was made on July 4th. The day was very fine and the inspection made under easy conditions. The service reservoir at Hayborough was visited and a good head of water noted. Also the filter beds at Belle Vue and the pumping station at the Goat, and everything found satisfactory. A visit was made to the Keswick Sewerage Works. The weather had been fine and dry, and the result was that the state of affairs was as satisfactory as it is ever possible to be. The same remark applies to the condition of the Portinscale Sewerage Works.

The condition of the water supply during the year appears to have been satisfactory as regards the quality.

Factories and Workshops Act. There are 74 Workshops (including Bakehouses) on the Register. 409 inspections were made during the year, and on the whole the conditions were found sanitary; 5 written notices were served for want of cleanliness, and the defects were immediately attended to. One case of overcrowding was reported by H M. Inspector of Factories, at a workroom in John street, but the explanation given proved satisfactory and no action was taken.

Measles Epidemic. The Epidemic of Measles which was imported from Dearham in the last quarter of 1904, soon spread over the whole district. There had not been a serious epidemic for some years, so that there was naturally a good deal of inflammable material at hand. The Infant Schools were all closed as the various parts of the district became infected. Unfortunately the weather was very cold, and a great number of deaths resulted from chest complications. A report on the Epidemic was afterwards sent to the Local Government Board.

Sanitation On January 17th I made an examination of the roofs of two houses in King Street which had been closed for some time; they were in a dangerous condition, daylight appearing through the roofs, even from the street. It was recommended that they be either properly made up or pulled down to avoid possibly serious damage.

On March 5th, I inspected Mandle's Yard, John Street, and found it in a very uneven condition and therefore wet and dirty. It has been since levelled up and paved.

On June 26th, in company with the Inspector, I made an inspection of the whole of the district left unvisited last year; that is of the whole of the East Ward and of the portion of the South Ward across the river.

Ellenborough. Most of the recommendations included in the last report have been carried out. The downspouts which formerly ran direct into the sewer have been disconnected. Many of the old privies have been connected with the sewerage system, but there were a few others still not connected, and amongst them were four which were urgently in need of attention. They serve the following houses: Nos.

2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 ; they were just wooden erections in a broken-down and ruinous condition, and besides being insufficient for their proper purpose, they served as breeding grounds for flies, &c. Two of them were on the road side, and were at times very offensive. They have since this report been rebuilt and connected with the sewerage system.

The Slaughter House at Mr. Greenhow's was visited and found clean and sanitary.

Netherton. Since last report a larger and deeper sewer has been laid down the back streets, and all the privies complained of have been connected with the sewerage system except a block bounded by Jane Street, Albert Terrace, and the south-east side of James street. Many of these privies were in an offensive state and in the hot weather gave off a very disagreeable effluvium. It was recommended that they should all be connected with the sewerage system, and that in the meantime they should be compulsorily cleaned out every week and disinfectant sawdust applied freely to the bottoms and sides of the pits.

Glasson. The street in front of Norman Terrace complained of at last report has been repaved as also that at the back of the same street. The back street between Ellenborough Place and Gilmour Street was much broken up and uneven, and wanted levelling and repaving.

Before leaving this part of the report may I call attention to the state of the long steps leading from the Brow Top into Wallace Lane. In spite of the notice boards which were put, the nuisance still exists as bad as ever, and no one has ever been summoned. The condition of the steps especially on a Sunday morning, is a disgrace, being disgusting in daylight, and dangerous in the dark.

Port Sanitation and Journal. On January 12th, I was called by a Customs Officer to see a sick man on board the s.s. "Elorrio," but found nothing worse than Bronchitis.

On March 9th I had a notice from the Hull and Goole Port Sanitary Authority, of the arrival at Hull of the s.s. "Springwell" from Bombay—a Cholera port—and that a man called Taylor had been allowed to proceed to his home at 15 Elizabeth Terrace, Netherton. I visited him the following day and found him quite well.

On April 29th I received notice from the Customs that the Spanish steamer "Uriarte No. 4," from Ergasteria, was lying in the roadstead with the Master dead on board. A medical certificate, however, was forthcoming, that the cause of death was Heart Disease, and pratique was granted.

On June 9th I received a notice from the Medical Officer of Health of Liverpool, to the effect that a case of Small-pox had occurred on board the s.s. "Oropean," and that one of the officers was proceeding to his address in this town. On enquiry it was found that the incubation period was long past, and the man quite well.

On June 13th I attended an enquiry at Keswick into the new sewerage scheme proposed for adoption. As the result was entirely favourable to us, it was an affair of watching only.

On August 3rd I received notice from the Customs that the s.s. "Banana" from the West Coast of Africa and Carthagená, was in the Senhouse Dock, with possibly infectious disease on board. Some of the crew had had Malaria, and one man had disappeared during the voyage. I found that the men had all been paid off and discharged. Nearly all, including the officers, had had Malaria, which is not infectious.

During the month of August, I, in common with other Medical officers, had some correspondence with the Secretary of the Cumberland Education Committee with reference to the proposed transfer of reading books from school and school, and the possibility of spreading infectious diseases by this means; I received copies of the scheme with instructions issued by the Medical Officer of Health of the Carlisle Rural District, for the disinfection, etc., of infected schools, involving the burning of all infected books, and these appeared to me to be sufficient.

On November 13th I received a letter from the Customs through your authority, asking for a change of boarding station in the case of vessels from foreign, which are not infected, and which have no case of sickness on board. Infection in this case refers to Cholera, Yellow fever, and Plague only. As there was no reasonable objection to the change, I sent a favourable reply.

On November 28th the master of the s.s. "Baracaldo" was reported sick, but on visiting him I found him suffering from Quinsy only.

On November 30th I received a letter from the Medical Officer of Health of the Port of London, re the s.s. "Isle of Anglesey," Liverpool, as to certain alterations ordered to be made in the fore-castle by that Authority. Our inspector visited the vessel, and found that the alterations had not been carried out. She was going to Swansea where it was intended to effect the alterations, and I wrote to the Medical Officer of Health to that effect.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES LITTLE, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Maryport,

Feb. 2nd, 1906.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and previous years.
Maryport Urban District.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District.	
		Number	Rate *	Under 1 year of Age.		At all Ages.					Number	Rate *
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number	Rate *					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	11,500	378	32.87	65	172	221	19.21	—	—	—	221	19.21
1896	"	366	31.82	51	139	184	16.00	—	—	—	184	16.00
1897	"	370	32.17	42	113.5	163	14.17	—	—	—	163	14.17
1898	11,800	356	30.16	57	160.1	189	16.01	—	—	—	189	16.01
1899	"	361	30.59	38	105.2	178	15.08	—	—	—	178	15.08
1900	11,850	329	28.66	62	182.8	210	17.72	—	—	—	210	17.72
1901	11,896	376	31.6	66	175.5	203	17.06	2	—	—	203	17.06
1902	"	378	31.77	48	126.9	178	14.96	2	1	—	177	14.87
1903	"	376	31.6	63	167.5	190	15.97	2	1	1	190	15.97
1904	"	368	30.93	72	185.6	207	17.39	—	—	—	207	17.39
Averages for years 1895-1904	11,753	365	31.21	56	152.9	192	16.35	---	---	---	191	16.34
1905	12,400	352	28.38	45	127.8	191	15.40	1	1	—	190	15.32

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population at all ages at Census of 1901, 12,400
 Number of inhabited houses do. 2,528
 Average number of persons per house do. 4.82

Area of District in acres (exclusive of } 1528
 area covered by water)

- I. Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District } Victoria Cottage Hospital.
- II. Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District..... } Union Workhouse Hospital.
- III. Other Institutions the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District } —

The Union Workhouse is not within the District.

TABLE II.
Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1905 and previous years.
Maryport Urban District.

Names of Localities	1. Whole District.				2. North Ward.				3. South Ward.				4. East Ward.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
Year.	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
	11,500	378	221	65												
	"	366	184	51												
	"	370	163	42												
	11,800	356	189	57												
	"	361	178	38												
	11,850	329	210	62												
	11,896	376	203	66	41,22	138	80	30	4,241	118	83	23	3,533	120	40	13
	"	378	177	48	"	113	51	15	"	127	81	19	"	138	45	14
	"	376	190	63	"	144	75	28	"	104	63	17	"	128	52	18
	"	368	207	72	"	123	87	22	"	103	54	17	"	142	66	28
Averages of Years 1895. to 1904.	11,753	365	192	56	4,122	129	73	24	4,241	113	70	19	3,533	132	51	18
1905	12,400	352	190	45	4,150	110	63	15	4,400	103	69	18	3,850	139	58	12

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1905.

Maryport Urban District

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District							Total Cases notified in each locality.			No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each locality.		
	At all ages	At Ages—Years.						North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.	North Ward.	South Ward.	East Ward.
		Un- der 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and up- wards.						
Small-pox	4	—	—	—	3	1	—	4	—	—	4	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
Membranous } croup }	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	7	—	—	—	1	5	1	3	2	2	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	38	—	16	20	2	—	—	18	6	14	—	—	—
Typhus fever.. ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	54	—	20	20	6	6	2	25	12	17	4	—	—

Isolation Hospital in East Ward, Maryport Urban District.

TABLE IV.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1905.
Maryport Urban District.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined Ages.							Deaths in or belonging to localities (at all ages)			Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	North Ward	South Ward	East Ward	
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	35	10	24	1	—	—	—	17	11	7	—
Scarlet fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria & membranous croup ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fever { Typhus	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
{ Enteric	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
{ Other continued	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epidemic influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhœa	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
Enteritis	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—
Puerperal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other septic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis	11	—	1	1	1	8	—	5	4	2	—
Other tubercular diseases	6	1	—	3	1	1	—	2	1	3	—
Cancer, malignant disease	6	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	3	2	—
Bronchitis	18	5	4	—	—	4	5	4	6	8	—
Pneumonia	13	2	1	—	—	7	3	5	7	1	—
Pleurisy	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Other diseases of respiratory organs	4	1	1	—	1	—	1	2	1	1	—
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver ..	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	1	—
Venereal diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—
Diseases & accidents of parturition	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—
Heart diseases	19	—	—	1	—	11	7	5	4	10	—
Accidents, (Drowning)	7	—	1	—	2	3	1	1	4	2	—
Suicides	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Rheumatic fever, (Hyperpyrexia)	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
All other causes	47	13	8	2	—	7	17	10	18	19	—
All causes	191	45	44	8	5	54	35	63	70	58	—

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1905.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Maryport Urban District.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	{ Certified ...	...	7	3	3	...	13	3	1	..	4	1	3	4	2	3	5	5	44
	{ Uncertified ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Common Infectious Diseases	{ Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	4	4	10	...
	{ Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Diphtheria : Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoeal Diseases.	{ Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Diarrhoea, all forms ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...
	{ Enteritis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wasting Diseases.	{ Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	4	...
	{ Premature Birth ...	...	5	1	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
	{ Congenital Defects ...	...	1	1	2	...	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...
	{ Injury at Birth ...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	{ Want of Breast-milk Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	2	...
Tuberculous Diseases	{ Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Tuberculous Peritonitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Tabes Mesenterica ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Other Tuberculous Diseases }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	{ Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
	{ Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
	{ Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
	{ Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	...
	{ Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...
	{ Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Suffocation, overlaying ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Other Causes ...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
			7	3	3	...	13	3	2	...	4	1	3	4	2	3	5	5	45

Births in the year { legitimate 339.
 { illegitimate 13.

Population.
 Estimated to middle of 1905.
 12,400.

Deaths from ALL CAUSES AT ALL AGES 190.

TABLE VI.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces and Homework.

Maryport Urban District.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	409	5	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)			
Workplaces			
Homeworkers' Premises			
Total ...	409	5	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	5	5	—	—
Overcrowding	1	1	—	—
Total	6	6	—	—

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (s. 5) { Notified by H.M. Inspectors 2
Reports (of Action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors 2

Total number of Workshops on Register, 1905 :— 74